

Application No.: 10/035,124
Group Art Unit: 3732
Examiner: Todd E. MANAHAN

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courteous personal interview conducted on October 6, 2004, with Applicant's Attorney. As noted in the Interview Summary, the Examiner indicated that the projection (13) is not shown in the prior art of record. Accordingly, dependent claim 2 has been cancelled and the elements of cancelled claim 2, with regard to the projection, have been incorporated into claim 1. Independent claim 1, as presently amended, and dependent claims 3-11 are now believed to overcome the prior art of record.

Further, during the interview, the Examiner indicated that the proposed amendments to independent claim 1 filed on September 24, 2004, do not have proper support in the original specification and may be considered to be new matter. Accordingly, independent claim 1 has been amended to delete the phrase "and the partial denture does not require an elastic retainer strip in front of existing front teeth of a patient".

In view of the amendments to independent claim 1, cancellation of claim 2, and the remarks above, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims is believed to be warranted.

Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



WONKI K. PARK
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 38,991

Date: October 21, 2004
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: 703-683-0500
Facsimile: 703-683-1080

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